

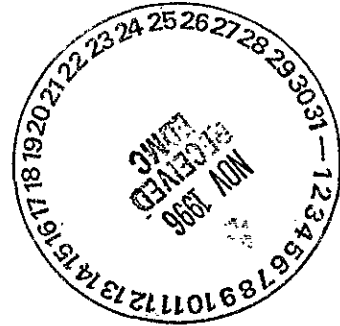
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Department of Energy  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550  
Richland, Washington 99352

038392

OCT 21 1996



Mr. Steve M. Alexander  
Perimeter Areas Section Manager  
Nuclear Waste Program  
State of Washington  
Department of Ecology  
1315 W. 4th Avenue  
Kennewick, Washington 99336

Dear Mr. Alexander:

FISCAL YEAR 1997-1999 DECONTAMINATION AND DECOMMISSIONING (D&D) MULTI-YEAR  
BUDGET BRIEFING

In response to your comments provided in a letter dated August 16, 1996, of the same subject, the U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (RL) is in the process of preparing a change request for modifying section 8.0 of the Tri-Party Agreement to address conducting surveillance and maintenance (S&M) and final disposition of facilities under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). The Multi-Year Plan will not address these issues until negotiations are completed and the full impacts of potential revision to section 8.0 of the Tri-Party Agreement is realized. Additionally, RL is in the process of dispositioning specific comments to the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State of Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) which will provide clarification of potential alternatives for final disposition of the 233-S facility. 44975

RL considers issues involving decommissioning under CERCLA and final disposition of 233-S as issues of utmost importance for implementation of a successful D&D program and is currently working with EPA and Ecology to provide resolution. Please feel free to contact me on 376-7121 if you require additional information regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey M. Bruggeman, Project Manager  
Decontamination and Decommissioning Project

DDP:JMB

cc: A. D. Huckaby, Ecology  
P. S. Innis, EPA  
J. A. Rugg, BHI